

Amendment No. 1 to HB1027

Faison
Signature of Sponsor

AMEND Senate Bill No. 1016

House Bill No. 1027*

by deleting SECTION 3 and substituting instead the following:

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 38-7-201, is amended by deleting the section and substituting instead the following:

(a)

(1) There is created the Tennessee state medical examiner advisory council, referred to in this section as the "council."

(2)

(A) The council shall consist of twelve (12) members, each of whom shall be a resident of this state.

(B) The director of the Tennessee bureau of investigation shall be a permanent member of the council.

(C) The governor shall appoint members to the council as follows:

(i) Three (3) representatives from regional forensic centers;

(ii) One (1) district attorney general;

(iii) One (1) district public defender;

(iv) Three (3) county medical examiners, one (1) from each grand division of Tennessee;

(v) One (1) licensed funeral director; and

(vi) One (1) county mayor.

(D) The state chief medical examiner shall serve as an ex officio, voting member of the council.

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(E) All regular appointments to the council shall be for terms of three (3) years each, with a maximum of two (2) consecutive terms. Each member shall serve until a successor is appointed. Vacancies shall be filled by appointment of the governor for the remainder of an unexpired term.

(b) Each member of the council shall receive reimbursement for travel expenses in accordance with the comprehensive travel regulations promulgated by the department of finance and administration and approved by the attorney general and reporter.

(c) The council shall organize annually, and the state chief medical examiner shall serve as chair. The council may select other officers as needed. Meetings shall be held at least annually with additional meetings as frequently as may be required.

(d) The council shall have the power and duty to:

(1) Review candidates and make a recommendation to the commissioner of health on the appointment of the state chief medical examiner and deputy state medical examiners;

(2) Assist the state chief medical examiner in the development and updating of guidelines for death investigations and forensic autopsies in this state, to be promulgated as rules through the department of health;

(3) Issue an annual report on death investigations in this state;

(4) Periodically review standards and guidelines promulgated by the department of health for the medical examiner system; and

(5) Provide reports and recommendations to the commissioner on:

- (A) Causes of death that may require public health intervention;
- (B) Funding issues;
- (C) Information technology needs; and
- (D) Any other issues as determined by the council.